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3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
4 EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

5 LILIANA M. MESKE,

6 Plaintiff,

7 v.

8 AMANDA RENZELMAN,
9 individually and in her official capacity;
10 DON W. ANDERSON, individually
11 and in his official capacity; ASOTIN
12 COUNTY SHERIFF'S
13 DEPARTMENT; ASOTIN COUNTY,
14 a political subdivision of the State of
15 Washington; and DOES 1-10,

16 Defendants.

No. 2:15-cv-00359-SMJ

**ORDER DENYING
DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR
DISMISSAL OF DEFENDANT
ASOTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT**

17 Defendants move to dismiss Defendant Asotin County Sheriff's Office.
18 ECF No. 32. Defendants argue that the Sheriff's Department is not an independent
19 entity capable of being sued. ECF No. 32 at 3–4. "It is beyond dispute that a local
20 governmental unit or municipality can be sued as a 'person' under section 1983."
Hervey v. Estes, 65 F.3d 784, 791 (9th Cir. 1995). This includes county sheriff's
departments. *See Jackson v. Barnes*, 749 F.3d 755, 766 (9th Cir. 2014) (holding
that Sheriff's Department was subject to suit under § 1983 for its investigative
activities).

1 Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

2 **1.** Defendants' Motion for Dismissal of Defendant Asotin County
3 Sheriff's Department, **ECF No. 32**, is **DENIED**.

4 **IT IS SO ORDERED.** The Clerk's Office is directed to enter this Order
5 and provide copies to all counsel.

6 **DATED** this 4th day of August 2017.

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8 SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR.
9 United States District Judge
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